

Message Text

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12385 091934Z

63

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 091455Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2803

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T MOSCOW 12385

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR US YO

SUBJ: GUARANTEEING YUGOSLAV INDEPENDENCE

REF: BELGRAGE 4276

1. WE DOUBT THAT ANY DIRECT APPROACH TO SOVIETS OVER YUGOSLAVIA--EVEN ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY EMBASSY BELGRADE-- WOULD BE LIKELY TO REDOUND TO BENEFIT OF YUGOSLAVS. SOVIETS WOULD BE ONLY TOO HAPPY TO EXPLOIT ANY BILATERAL TALKS FOR PURPOSES OF ENCOURAGING IDEA THAT THEY HAVE PATERNAL RELATIONSHIP WITH YUGOSLAVIA AND OF STIMULATING TRADITIONAL YUGOSLAV PARANOIA ABOUT A DEAL. WE ALSO SHARE CONCERN (WELL EXPRESSED IN PARAGRAPH SIX OF REFTEL) THAT SOVIETS WILL, ACCIDENTLY OR ON PURPOSE, MISINTERPRET WHAT WE TELL THEM.

2. WE THINK A LESS RISKY WAY TO PUT SOVIETS ON NOTICE THAT CONTINUED INDEPENDENCE OF YUGOSLAVIA IS IMPORTANT TO US WOULD BE THROUGH A HIGH-LEVEL (PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY) PUBLIC STATEMENT MAKING THE POINT EITHER DIRECTLY OR AT LEAST IN A MANNER THAT LEAVES NO DOUBT YUGOSLAVIA IS MEANT. SOVIETS WOULD GET THE MESSAGE. INDEED, WE SHOULD PLAY IT BACK TO THEM IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE BILATERAL CONTACTS. SUCH AN APPROACH, IN OUR VIEW, WOULD AVOID THE UNCERTAINTIES THAT WOULD BE INVOLVED IN A DIRECT AND CONFIDENTIAL BILATERAL
SECRET

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APPROACH.

DUBS

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, POLICIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, MEETINGS
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Draft Date: 09 OCT 1973
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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